

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method to protect a transgene from silencing, comprising concurrently introducing ~~the said~~ transgene and an insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene into an animal ~~or a plant~~, organs of an animal ~~or a plant~~, or cells ~~derived~~ collected from an animal ~~or a plant~~ wherein said transgene is introduced using a viral vector, and wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene protects the transgene from silencing.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Currently Amended) The method to protect a transgene from silencing according to ~~Claim 2~~Claim 1, wherein said viral vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.
4. (Previously Presented) The method to protect a transgene from silencing according to Claim 1, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.
5. (Currently Amended) A method for introducing a gene, comprising concurrently introducing the transgene and an insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene into an animal ~~or a plant~~, organs of an animal ~~or a plant~~, or cells ~~derived~~ collected from an animal ~~or a plant~~ so as to protect the transgene from silencing, wherein said transgene is introduced using a viral vector.
6. (Canceled).
7. (Currently Amended) The method for introducing a gene according to ~~Claim 6~~Claim 5, wherein said viral vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

8. (Previously Presented) The method for introducing a gene according to Claim 5, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

9. (Withdrawn) A method for production of a vector, wherein an insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced into the vector so as to protect the vector from silencing.

10. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 9, wherein said vector is a viral vector.

11. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 9, wherein said vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

12. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 9, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

13. (Withdrawn) A vector for introducing a transgene comprising an insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene so as to protect the transgene from silencing.

14. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 13, wherein said vector is a viral vector.

15. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 13, wherein said vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

16. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 13, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

17. (Currently Amended) The method to protect a transgene from silencing according to ~~Claim 2~~Claim 1, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

18. (Previously Presented) The method to protect a transgene from silencing according to Claim 3, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

19. (Currently Amended) The method for introducing a gene according to ~~Claim 6~~Claim 5, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

20. (Previously Presented) The method for introducing a gene according to Claim 7, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

21. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 10, wherein said vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

22. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 10, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

23. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 11, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

24. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 14, wherein said vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

25. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 14, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

26. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 15, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~Claim 27~~Claim 1, wherein the animal is a human.